

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 and 32-36 are pending.

Claims 1-8, 10, 32 and 33 stand rejected. Claim 9 has been allowed and claims 34-36 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In this response, claim 1 is amended. No new matter is considered to be presented by this amendment.

The amendment of claim 1 includes some editorial revisions as well as removal of subject matter considered not directly relevant to the inventive subject matter presented in this application. It is believed that the corrected claim set is in full conformance with 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Independent claims 1 and 32, and their dependent claims 2-4, 7, 8 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsushita, JP 08-276787, in view of Takano et al., US 5,850,254.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsushita in view of Takano, and further in view of Tomitaka, US 5,355,163.

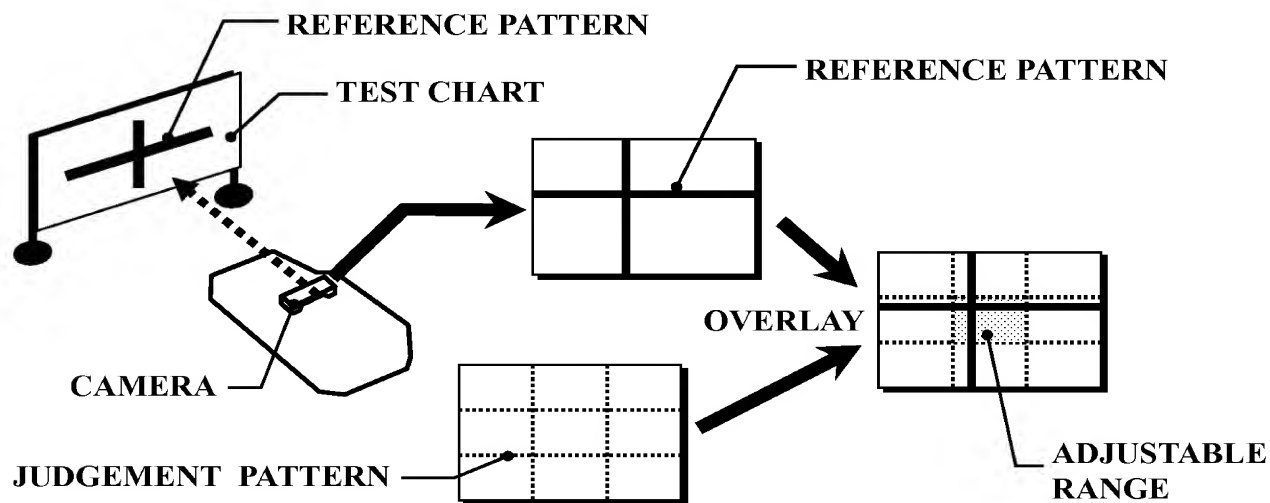
Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsushita in view of Takano, and further in view of Hamaguri, US 6,462,777.

These grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

In regard to claims 1 and 32, the Examiner relies on Takano as a disclosure of feature in each claim. Applicants respectfully submit that Takano does not teach or even

suggest a distinctive feature of the independent claims.

The independent claims require a determination as to whether a camera has been installed at a position where at in use, its image can be adjusted by image transformation. In order for a camera image to be adjustable in this manner, a “reference pattern” on a test chart must display within the boundaries of a predetermined “judgment patter” that is an overlay on the camera image. If the reference pattern is not within the predetermined judgement pattern, the camera image can not be adjusted by image transformation alone.



Rather, the camera mount must be altered to get the camera into a position whereat its image can be adjusted merely by image transformation in actual use. Our claims require that there be a notification when the camera is not positioned sufficiently correctly to permit a camera image to be adjusted by image transformation in actual use. Using our claimed methods it is possible to achieve improved efficiency of readjustment by notifying an operator of information useful for carrying out the

readjustment when the shooting direction has been judged to be deviating (see our specification page 3, lines 18-21).

The Matsushita does not teach this feature. Takano teaches a camera device 2 having a universal joint 17 and conveying (this is not our claimed “notifying”) to a drive circuit of the joint 17 an information concerning adjustment of the camera apparatus in the case where the reference pattern is within the adjustable range by the joint 17 (see Takano Figure 9, steps 1010 and 1011), or notifying the driver of warning, in the case where the reference pattern deviates from the adjustable range of the joint 17 (see Takano Figure 9, steps 1010, 1013 and 1014).

Takano also discloses a method by an image correction, features storing of information concerning adjustment of the image in the case where the reference pattern is within the adjustable range by the image correction (See Takano Figure 13, steps 1015, 1016 and 1017), and notifying the driver of warning in the case where the reference pattern deviates from the adjustable range of the image correction (See Takano Figure 13, steps 1015, 1018 and 1019). This embodiment utilizes the image correction device instead of the universal joint 17, shown above.

Takano does not teach or suggest notifying of information concerning adjustment of the camera apparatus in the case where the reference pattern is outside of some predetermined adjustable range, but only notifying the driver of warning, having no practical information about the quantitative adjustment.

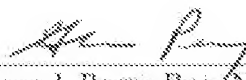
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 32 and their dependent claims are patentably distinguishable over cited references.

If any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are due in connection with this filing, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 032405.041.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:



Glenn J. Perry, Reg. No. 28,458
1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202)263-4300
Facsimile: (202) 263-4329

Smith, Gambrell & Russell
Suite 800
1850 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

Main telephone: 202-263-4300